

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the current Abstract in its entirety and  
substitute therefor the following New Abstract:

NEW ABSTRACT

A method~~-(2)~~, an apparatus, a computer readable medium and use of said method for authenticating an audio-visual signal~~-(10)~~, such as a digital image or video, are disclosed. A signature is derived from all image regions, including areas with flat or otherwise un-watermarkable content. By combining signature bits from all regions of the audio-visual signal and spreading the signature bits over the whole audio-visual signal or at least a large area of it, preferably by applying a spread spectrum watermarking technique ~~(2.40)~~, the authenticity of flat regions is verified.